

B. Claims

1. [currently amended] A method for leasing a motor vehicle to a credit challenged customer comprising the steps of:

selecting a vehicle based on predetermined financial criteria;

approving a lease for the vehicle;

funding the lease;

selecting and installing into the vehicle a device capable upon activation of rendering the vehicle operable for a predetermined period of time, the vehicle otherwise being inoperable with the installed device;

activating the device to render the vehicle operable for a predetermined lease period after receiving a predetermined lease payment from the customer for the predetermined lease period; and

delivering the vehicle to the customer.

2. [original] The method of claim 1 wherein the step of funding the lease further includes the step of acquiring a line of credit.

3. [original] The method of claim 2 wherein the value of the line of credit is substantially equal to an amount of business anticipated during a predetermined period, represented by the formula:

number of deals per month x number of months x average deal value (\$).

4. [currently amended] The method of claim 1 wherein the predetermined financial criteria step of selecting the vehicle comprises ~~selecting a vehicle that satisfies~~ the customer's needs based upon a dollar value per week lease payment the customer can afford.
5. [original] The method of claim 1 wherein the vehicle selected is selected from the group consisting of a current model year vehicle to a 5 model years old vehicle for a 36 month term lease; a 6 model years old vehicle to an 8 model years old vehicle for a 24 month term lease; and a 9 model years old vehicle to a 10 model years old vehicle for a 12 month term lease.
6. [original] The method of claim 1 wherein the vehicle selected is selected from the group consisting of a vehicle with less than about 60,000 miles for a maximum 36 month lease term; a vehicle with about 60,000 miles to about 100,000 miles for a maximum 24 month lease term; and a vehicle with about 100,000 miles to about 130,000 miles for a maximum 12 month lease term.
7. [original] The method of claim 1 wherein the lease has a maximum net capitalized cost no greater than 120% of current NADA retail value.
8. [original] The method of claim 1 wherein the step of approving the lease is performed electronically.
9. [original] The method of claim 1 wherein the step of approving the lease is performed by a reviewer.
10. [original] The method of claim 1 further including the step of tracking predetermined lease information by a microprocessor.

11. [original] The method of claim 1 further including the step of transferring lease information to a third party wherein the third party tracks the lease and issues at least one predetermined lease schedule.
12. [original] The method of claim 1 wherein the device capable upon activation of rendering the vehicle operable for a predetermined period of time comprises a device with a microprocessor connected to the vehicle's ignition system to prevent starting of the vehicle without a predetermined authorization.
13. [original] The method of claim 1 wherein the step of activating the device comprises transferring an authorization code selected from the group consisting of using a keypad, via radio waves and via a cellular telephone.
14. [original] The method of claim 13 wherein the step of activating the device to render the vehicle operable for the predetermined lease period comprises the steps of:
 - entering into the microprocessor upon delivery of the vehicle to the customer a plurality of predetermined authorization codes, each of the codes upon activation rendering the vehicle operable for the predetermined period;
 - supplying to the customer the authorization code for a paid predetermined period; and
 - entering into the microprocessor the authorization code for the paid predetermined period, thereby rendering the vehicle operable for the paid predetermined period.

15. [original] The method of claim 14 wherein the paid predetermined period is a lease payment period.

16. [original] The method of claim 14 wherein the plurality of predetermined authorization codes includes an emergency code for allowing the vehicle to be operated for a period of predetermined short duration in response to an emergency and a reset code for resetting a previously activated emergency code.

17. [original] The method of claim 1 further including the step of selecting and installing in the vehicle a device for tracking the vehicle selected from the group consisting of a Global Positional System device and a Radio Frequency Identification device.

18. [original] The system for leasing a motor vehicle to a credit challenged consumer created by the method of claim 1.

19. [original] A system for leasing a motor vehicle to a credit challenged consumer comprising:

a device capable upon activation of rendering the vehicle operable for a predetermined period of time, the vehicle otherwise being inoperable with the installed device;

means for obtaining a funded lease for the vehicle; and

a means for activating the device upon payment of a predetermined lease amount.

20. [original] The system of claim 19 wherein the funded lease is funded by a leasing company and the means for obtaining a funded lease comprises means for calculating a revolving line of credit substantially equal to an amount of business anticipated during a predetermined period for the leasing company, using the formula:

number of deals per month x number of months x average deal value (\$).

21. [original] The system of claim 19 further including a microprocessor for providing at least one predetermined system parameter in electronic form selected from the group consisting of a dollar amount for a revolving line of credit obtained by a leasing company from a lending institution to fund the lease; an interest rate to be paid on the revolving line of credit; insurance coverage appropriate for the funded lease; a vehicle appropriate for a consumer; a lease reviewer for approving, funding and posting the lease; a consumer appropriate for the funded lease; at least one predetermined form and information used by the reviewer; predetermined information used by a vehicle dealership; predetermined information used by the leasing company, predetermined information used by a third party, and combinations thereof, wherein the consumer appropriate for the funded lease is determined using at least one parameter selected from the group consisting of a consumer's weekly income, job history, residential stability, available amount of cash, available trade equity and an amount of equity required to complete a lease transaction.

22. [original] The system of claim 21 wherein the device capable upon activation of rendering the vehicle operable for a predetermined period of time comprises a

device with a microprocessor connected to the vehicle's ignition system to prevent starting of the vehicle without a predetermined authorization.

23. [original] The system of claim 19 further comprise a device for tracking the vehicle selected from the group consisting of a Global Positional System device and a Radio Frequency Identification device.

24. [original] The system of claim 19 wherein the means for activating the device includes transferring an authorization code selected from the group consisting of using a keypad, via radio waves and via a cellular telephone.

25. [original] The system of claim 22 wherein the activating means comprises:

entering into the microprocessor upon delivery of the vehicle to the customer a plurality of predetermined authorization codes, each of the codes upon activation rendering the vehicle operable for the predetermined period;

supplying to the customer an authorization code for a paid predetermined period; and

entering into the microprocessor the authorization code for the paid predetermined period, thereby rendering the vehicle operable for the predetermined period.

26. [original] The system of claim 25 wherein the predetermined period is selected from the group consisting of weekly, bi-weekly and monthly.

27. [original] The system of claim 25 wherein the plurality of predetermined authorization codes includes an emergency code for allowing the vehicle to be

operated for a period of predetermined short duration in response to an emergency and a reset code for resetting a previously activated emergency code.

28 - 31 [cancelled]